

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SY-05 MMO-01 /017 W

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R 111844Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3939

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 2551

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ASEC AFIN

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR RESIDENTIAL GUARD COVERAGE

1. DURING THE EARLY MORNING HOURS OF MARCH 7, 1976, PERSON(S) UNKNOWN BROKE INTO THE RESIDENCE OF THE COUNSELOR FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND STOLE SEVERAL ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY \$450 DOLLARS. THIS IS THE THIRD BURGLARY WHICH HAS OCCURRED AT THIS RESIDENCE IN SLIGHTLY OVER ONE YEAR. ON MAY 8, 1975, PERSON(S) UNKNOWN ENTERED THIS RESIDENCE THROUGH AN OPEN UPPER LEVEL WINDOW AND STOLE PERSONAL ITEMS VALUED AT APPROXIMATELY \$270 DOLLARS. ON FEBRUARY 8, 1975, A THIEF WHO POSED AS A DELIVERY PERSON ENTERED THE RESIDENCE AND STOLE A CERAMIC FIGURE VALUED AT \$50 DOLLARS.

2. ON DECEMBER 19, 1975, DURING AN OFFICIAL REPRESENTATION FUNCTION AT THE RESIDENCE OF THE COUNSELOR FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, HUBCAPS FROM FIVE AUTOMOBILES BELONGING TO GUESTS WERE STOLEN. ON EITHER AUGUST 10 OR 11, 1975, THE DOG OWNED BY THIS OFFICER WAS POISONED. THIS POISONING WAS CONFIRMED BY A LOCAL VETERINARIAN. ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS, FROM 1975 TO DATE, THIS OFFICER AND MEMBERS OF HIS FAMILY AND HOUSEHOLD STAFF HAVE REPORTED THAT ADULT STRANGERS WERE OBSERVED IN THE AREA AND WERE OBVIOUSLY SURVEYING THE RESIDENCE.

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3. THE COUNSELOR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS AND

THE CONSUL GENERAL RESIDE IN RESIDENCES WHICH ARE CONNECTED, SIDE BY SIDE. DURING THE PAST THREE YEARS THESE RESIDENCES HAVE BEEN BURGLARIZED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. IN RECENT MONTHS, NO BURGALARIES HAVE OCCURRED HOWEVER, PETTY VANDALISM HAS BEEN REPORTED AND ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS THE OCCUPANTS BELIEVE THAT INDIVIDUALS ATTEMPTED TO ENTER THE PREMISES ONLY TO BE SCARED AWAY BY THE BARK OF DOGS, THE TURNING ON OF LIGHTS ETC.

4. AS A RESULT OF THE INCIDENTS DETAILED ABOVE, THE DEPARTMENT IS URGED TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE FUNDING IN ORDER TO INITIATE 24-HOUR, ARMED GUARD COVERAGE AT THESE RESIDENCES. WHEN APPROVED, SINGLE GUARD POSTS WILL BE ESTABLISHED AT THE RESIDENCES OF THE COUNSELOR FOR POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND A SINGLE GUARD POST WILL BE ESTABLISHED TO COVER THE RESIDENCES OF THE COUNSELOR FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS AND THE CONSUL GENERAL.

5. AT THE CURRENT EXCHANGE RATE THIS SERVICE CAN BE PROVIDED AT THE COST OF \$572 DOLLARS PER MONTH PER POST. TOTAL FUNDS REQUIRED \$1,716 DOLLARS PER MONTH.

6. THE DEPARTMENTS RPOMPT AND FAVORABLE CONSIDERATION OF THIS REQUEST WILL BE APPRECIATED.
VAKY

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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